MEDICATIONS & DOSAGES FOR HEDGEHOGS

formulated by Caroline Gould & Tim Partridge B.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.
& used by Vale Wildlife Hospital & Rehabilitation Centre.

BRAND NAME	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	TYPE	DOSE
AMFIPEN	Ampicillin	Antibiotic injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 75mg/kg bodyweight daily for 7 days. Therefore: **250mg/ml injectable** = 0.3mls/kg daily i/m or s/c, **50mg tablets** = one & a half tablets/kg daily orally, **125mg tablets** = five eighths tablet/kg daily (closest calc. poss).
ANTIROBE	Clindamycin	Antibiotic	Dose rate: 25mg/kg bodyweight daily for at least 7 days. Therefore: **25mg capsules** = 1 capsule daily.
BAYCOX	Toltrazuril (50mg/ml oral suspension)	Coccidiosis treatment	Dose rate: 75mg/kg orally once, then repeat after 10 days **= 1.5ml/kg orally**
BAYTRIL	Enrofloxacin (2.5% or 5%)	Antibiotic injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 20mg/kg twice daily for at least 7 days. Therefore: **2.5% Baytril** = 0.8mls/kg twice daily (i/m or s/c if inj or), **5% Baytril** = 0.4mls/kg twice daily (i/m or s/c if inj.)
BISOLVON	Bromhexine	Bronchodilator & mucolytic injectabln & oral preparations	Dose rate: 3mg/kg daily. Therefore: **3mgs/ml injection** = 1ml/kg daily i/m or s/c for 7-10 days, **10mg/gm powder** = 0.3gms/kg daily orally for 7-10 days.
CEPOREX	Cephalexin	Antibiotic	Dose rate: 30mg/kg daily for 7 days. Therefore: **180mg/ml injectable** = 0.2ml/kg daily i/m or s/c (closest calc), **50mg tablets** = half a tablet/kg daily orally (closest calc), **100mg oral syrup** = 0.3ml/kg.
CLAMOXYL LA	Amoxycillin LA (150mg/ml)	Antibiotic injectable	Dose rate: 100mg/kg. Therefore, 0.7mls/kg bodyweight i/m or s/c **every other day.**
DEXADRESON	Dexamethasone (2mgs/ml)	Corticosteroid, anti-inflammatory Injectable (i/m, s/c or i/v) & oral preparations	**Inflammation**: 1mg/kg = 0.5ml/kg, **Shock**: 5mg/kg (2.5ml/kg), **Head or spinal trauma**: 5mg/kg initially (2.5ml/kg), then 2mg/kg (1ml/kg) s/c twice a day.
DIAZEPAM, VALIUM	Diazepam	Anticonvulsant injectable & oral preparations	1-3mg/kg every 6-8 hours acc to degree of sedation required. Therefore, if using: **5mg/ml injection** = 0.2 – 0.6mls/kg i/m or i/v, **5mg tablets** = one quarter to one half tablet/kg orally.
DIMAZON	Frusemide	Diuretic injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 5-10mg/kg twice daily. Therefore: **50mg/ml injectable** = 0.1-0.2ml/kg twice daily i/m, s/c or i/v, **20mg tablets** = one quarter to half a tablet/kg twice daily orally.
DRONCIT, DRONTAL	Praziquantal	Worrner (tapeworms) Injectable & oral preparations	3 doses, each 7 days apart. Therefore: **56.8mg/ml injectable** = 0.25ml/kg i/m or s/c (closest calc), **50mg tablets** = one third of a tablet/kg orally. **Profender Spot-on (cat)** = 0.4mls/kg on skin.
ENGEMYCIN	Oxytetracycline	Antibiotic injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 50mg/kg twice daily for 7 days. Therefore: **50mg/ml injectable** = 1ml/kg twice dailyi/m or s/c for 7 days, **50mg tablets** = 1 tablet/kg twice daily orally for 7 days, **100mg tablets** = half a tablet/kg twice daily orally for 7 days.
FLAGYL METRONIDAZOLE	Metronidazole	Antibacterial / antiprotozoal injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 40mg/kg daily for 5-10 days. Therefore: **5mg/ml injectable** = 8mls/kg daily s/c or i/v for 5-10 days, **200mg tablets** = one fifth of a tablet/kg daily orally for 5-10 days, **40mg oral solution** = 1ml/kg daily for 5-10 days.
IMAVEROL	Enilconazole	Antifungal	Mix 1:50 with water e.g. 5mls Imaverol to 250mls water (or 1ml Imaverol to 50mls water). Spray well & allow to 'drip dry'. Spray every 3 days until the hog has had 4 sprays. Keep in warm during treatment. Mixture will keep for 6 weeks. Small handheld houseplant sprayers are ideal for this.
ITRAFUNGOL	Itraconazole (1% = 10mgs/ml)	Antifungal	1.5mls/kg daily orally for 7 days, repeat after a 7 day break.
IVOMEC, PANOMEC	Ivermectin (1% = 10mgs/ml)	Wormer / parasites (not tapeworms)	0.4ml/kg - 3 inj, s/c each 1 week apart. **Mites:** 1-3 drops dep. on size directly onto skin on back of neck.
KETOFEN	Ketoprofen (10mgs/ml)	Analgesic / anti-inflammatory	Dose rate: 4mg/ kg = 0.4mls/kg daily i/m, s/c or i/v for up to 3 days. **DO NOT** USE IF CORTICOSTEROID GIVEN
LEVACIDE	Levamisole (75mgs/ml)	Wormer (lungworm)	Dose rate: 27mgs/kg = 0.35mls/kg daily s/c for 3 days. Repeat this from Day 13.
MARBOCYLSA, MARBOCYL 2%	Marbofloxacin	Antibiotic	Dose rate: 8mgs/kg daily for at least 7 days. Therefore: **SA 1%** = 0.8ml/kg daily s/c for at least 7 days, **2% injectable** = 0.4ml/kg daily s/c for at least 7 days.
METACAM	Meloxicam	Analgesic / anti-inflammatory injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 0.5mg/kg for up to 3 days. Therefore: **5mgs/ml injection** = 0.1mls/kg daily s/c for up to 3 days, **0.5mg/ml oral** = 1ml/kg daily for up to 3 days, **1.5mg/ml oral** = 0.35ml/kg daily for up to 3 days.
MILLOPHYLLINE V	Etamiphylline	Cardiac & respiratory stimulant injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 50mg/kg twice daily. Therefore: **140mg/ml injectable** = 0.35mls/kg twice daily i/m or s/c, **100mg tablets** = half a tablet/kg twice daily orally, **200mg tablets** = a quarter of a tablet/kg twice daily orally.
PANACUR	Fenbendazole	Anthelmintic (wormer)	100mg/kg daily **for 5 days. Repeat after 10 days.** Therefore: **18.75% Panacur paste** = 2 graduations/kg orally, **10% suspension** = 1ml/kg orally, **2.5% suspension** = 4mls/kg orally.
RIMADYL, NOROCARP	Carprofen (50mgs/ml)	Non-steroidal analgesic / anti-inflammatory injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 5mg/kg daily for up to 3 days. Therefore: **50mgs/ml injection** = 0.1mls/kg daily i/m, s/c or i/v, **20mg tablets** = quarter of a tablet/kg daily orally. **DO NOT** USE IF CORTICOSTEROID GIVEN
SYNULOX	Amoxicillin / Clavulanate (140mgs/ml)	Antibiotic injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate: 100mg/kg daily for at least 7 days. Therefore: **175mg/ml injectable** = 0.7mls/kg daily i/m or s/c for 7 days, **50mg tablets** = 2 tablets/kg daily for 7 days orally, **Palatable drops** = 2mls/kg daily for 7 days orally.

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TELMIN	Mebendazole	Wormer (lungworm)	100mg/kg orally daily for 5 days. Repeat after 10 days. Therefore, if using: **Telmin granules** = 1g/kg daily orally, **Telmin 200mg/g paste** = 0.5ml/kg daily orally.
TORBUGESIC	Butorphanol (10mgs/ml)	Analgesic	0.5mgs/kg = 0.05ml/kg 4 times daily i/m or s/c for up to 2 days
TRIBRISSEN	Trimethoprim / Sulphonamide	Antibiotic	**24% injection** = 0.5mls/kg daily s/c, Daily for 7 days
TYLAN 200	Tylosin	Antibiotic	Dose rate: 20mg/kg daily for 7 days. **200mg injectable** = 0.1ml/kg daily i/m or s/c.
VETERGESIC	Buprenorphine (0.3mgs/ml)	Analgesic & Sedative	Dose rate: 0.03-0.05mgs/kg. Therefore: 0.1-0.15mls/kg every 6 - 12 hours i/m or s/c. **CAN BE GIVEN IF CORTICOSTEROID GIVEN**
ZANTAC	Ranitidine	Antacid injectable & oral preparations	Dose rate:3.5mg/kg twice daily **for at least 14 days.** Therefore: **25mg/ml injectable** = 0.15ml/kg twice daily s/c, **15mg syrup** = 0.25ml/kg twice daily orally.

i/m = intramuscular
s/c = subcutaneous
i/v = intravenous

Oral preparations can often be mixed with a small amount of food.

If you need any advice on any of the medications or doses for hedgehogs please contact Caroline on 01386 882288 or email caroline@valewildlife.org.uk

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Autumn Juveniles Update – October 2016

In the wild there is a high mortality amongst autumn juvenile hedgehogs. Consequently, some hedgehog rehabilitators are choosing to routinely worm autumn juveniles on arrival, others think because there are so many different drugs needed depending on what parasites are present so you need to identify what they have before you can treat it. **Routine worming is not recommended** but faecal samples should be checked for eggs and larvae under a microscope when the hedgehog is first admitted and then periodically after that, especially if one that has been gaining weight well starts to drop weight on a daily basis.

Remember it is important to keep hoglets warm, perhaps with a heat pad, until they are at least 150gms. If cold they will not eat.

Lungworm can cause wheezing, coughing, gurgling, snuffling, respiratory distress and loss of appetite and weight. Frequently linked to a secondary bacterial infection and profuse mucus secretion in airways, dead worms, eggs and larvae must be coughed up or they will block the airways and may cause death.

There are a number of different worming regimes that rehabilitators use, this may be because certain worms are more prevalent in certain areas so different regimes have been developed to cope with local variations.

The following is widely used and currently appears to work:
If Crenesoma (larvae) are found in a sample, give Levamisole: (Levacide) 27mg/kg (0.35mls/kg) sc daily for 3 days. It is not necessary to dilute this before giving. Do not inject near the head, or give to pregnant hedgehogs or to unweaned babies. With young or weak hedgehogs under 300gms split the daily dose into 2 and give half in the morning and half in the evening and give on day 1 and day 3. Slightly different doses and repeat times are also being used successfully. It is for your vet to decide which dose they use. Repeat the levamisole doses 10 days after the previous course has ended (remember to re weigh and calculate the dose as hopefully the hedgehog will have put on weight). It is not usually necessary to repeat any of the other drugs unless symptoms suggest this is required. This also is the drug and dose to use for the increasingly common 'Thorny-headed' worm.

If Capillaria (eggs) are found in a sample, Ivomec/Panomec should be given on Days 1, 8 & 15 @ 0.4ml/kg sc. However, if the hedgehog is weak and both eggs and larvae are found wait until day 4 or 5 of the treatment before starting this part of the drug regime.

As lungworm infestation is frequently associated with a bacterial infection appropriate antibiotic cover should be given under veterinary supervision. For example, Marbocyl 2% @ 0.4ml/kg sc for 7 days or Baytril 2.5% @ 0.8ml/kg twice daily sc or im for 7 days and if Coccidiosis is suspected Baycox 75mg/kg orally single dose repeat in 10 days or Tribrissen injection (0.5ml/kg) for 7 days.

Bisolvon could also be used to shift mucus and bring up dead worms if the hedgehog is showing signs of a heavy lungworm burden (e.g. breathing is affected or it has a raspy cough). This can be given either orally (a pinch daily) or by injection @ 1ml/kg sc for 7 days.

Recent studies at VWH have shown a greater success rate when Dexadresen (a short acting anti inflammatory drug) is used when the hedgehog has problems breathing, at a rate of 0.5ml/kg twice daily for 3 days.

For Fluke, Profender Spot-on for cats at 0.5ml/kg on skin of underbelly once a week for 3 weeks can be used. Alternatively, Flukiver oral suspension can be given at 3ml/kg mixed in a little food, repeated after 2 weeks.

In most cases fluid therapy (by s/c injection) and hand feeding will be required. If the hedgehog is particularly young, sick or weak it should be kept on a heat pad throughout the treatment.

Do not feed hedgehogs on their natural food as this can result in re-infection. A meaty cat or dog food is ideal, along with cat complete biscuits, you might like to add a little bran to the mix as roughage. Puppy food liquidized with water or Royal Canin Kitten Mousse with water is recommended for particularly young or sick hedgehogs. Make sure fresh water is available at all times. Mealworms are not recommended for long-term feeding in captivity as a) hedgehogs can become addicted to them and will refuse any other food, and b) they have very little nutritional value and can actually strip calcium from the hedgehog due to the calcium/phosphorous ratio in them. That said, a small number of fresh mealworms can be useful to tempt fussy eaters to eat, as long as not given over a prolonged period. Feeding dried mealworms in the **wild** as part of a varied diet is acceptable.

Note the hedgehog may cough more after worming than it was before – this usually means that the worms are dying and being coughed up which is what you want – it does not necessarily mean that the hedgehog is getting worse.

Refer to the BHPS booklet on Care and Treatment of Hedgehogs or Vale Wildlife Hospitals (VWH) drug regimes for drug doses of these and other drugs frequently used on hedgehogs. Visit the websites: www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk and www.valewildlife.org.uk

Thanks to Vale Wildlife Hospital for their input into this advice sheet